Official Minutes for Webb County Commissioners Court Meeting

Monday, June 12, 2006 at 1:00 PM and continuing Tuesday, June 13, 2006 at 1:00 PM

(Approved 07-24-2006)

Item No. 1 Call to order by Judge Louis H. Bruni

Let it be remembered that a regular meeting of the Webb County Commissioners Court was held at 1:00 p.m. at the regular meeting place with the following members present to wit:

Louis H. Bruni County Judge
Frank Sciaraffa Commissioner, Pct. 1
Judith Gutierrez Commissioner, Pct. 2
Jerry Garza Commissioner, Pct. 3
Cindy Cortez-Brunner Commissioner, Pct. 4

Thus constituting a quorum, the Commissioners Court proceeded to act upon the Agenda as posted in the meeting notice of the 9th of June 2006. Present also were Ms. Nora Elia Prado, Deputy County Clerk representing Mrs. Margie Ramirez Ibarra, Ex-officio Clerk of the Commissioners Court, various officers and others interested in the business of the Court.

- Item No. 2 Roll Call Margie Ramirez Ibarra, Webb County Clerk
- Item No. 3 Pledge of Allegiance Led by All
- Item No. 4 Approval of minutes April 24, 2006

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 5 Approval of bills, payroll and monthly reports

Mr. Leo Flores, County Auditor, presented his monthly report ending May 2006. He stated that the report did not show anything out of the ordinary and that everything seemed according to schedule. He stated that the sales tax revenues as higher than budgeted. Cmr. Garza inquired as to why the Sheriff's Courthouse Security Account showed expenditures of 104% when only 66% of the fiscal year had passed. Mr. Flores stated that the deficit was in the Part-Time Payroll line item. He stated that he has advised the Sheriff's Department of their need to make a line item transfer to cover the overage. He stated that unless a line item transfer is made, he will be unable to authorize payment of operational expenses or payroll. Cmr. Gutierrez asked how a department can go over budget on payroll expenses when each slot in the payroll line item is funded for the entire year. Mr. Flores stated that since his department does not handle payroll, he is not aware of a deficit until after the fact.

He stated that the Payroll Department needed to address this issue. Ms. Delia Perales, County Treasurer, stated that she advised Mr. Rafael Perez, Chief Deputy Auditor, and Mr. J.J. Gonzalez, Sheriff Comptroller, of this deficit and she was advised that they were aware of the deficit and projected a deficit of \$400,000 by the end of the fiscal year. Cmr. Gutierrez stated that the departments needed to be aware of their expenses. She stated that no other expenses or payroll be paid out of this account until a line item transfer is made. She stated that no department has the right to go over budget and those line items needed to be monitored. She stated that there are several departments who make line item transfers for as little as \$10 because they are aware that they may go over budget but they do this before they go over, not after the fact. Mr. J.J. Gonzalez, Sheriff Comptroller, stated that the line item in question was not the regular payroll line item but the part time payroll item. He stated that he was told by the County Auditor that they could go over budget as long as a line item transfer was made to cover the overages. Mr. Flores stated for the record that he doesn't have the authority to give authorization to go over budget. He stated that he doesn't have control over payroll and whether someone can be paid or not paid. Ms. Perales requested that the court give her instruction as to whether she is to pay those employees funded under this line item since this Friday was payday. She stated that she was concerned about not paying these employees since they have already worked their hours. Cmr. Gutierrez stated that she was concerned about paying expenses from a line item that has no funds. Mr. Homero Ramirez, County Attorney, stated that if the County Auditor certifies that there are no monies in an account, then nothing can be paid from that account. Ms. Perales stated that she would stop payment for those part time employees being paid out of this line item. Mr. Gonzalez stated that the Sheriff's Department has enough in payroll savings in their regular payroll account to cover the overages in the Part Time account until the end of the fiscal year. He stated that there are 28 Part Time and 8 Full Time employees funded under this account. Mr. Flores stated that he will bring a report to the court of all payroll line items that are over budget.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve the County Auditor's Report. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 6 Communications

Cmr. Gutierrez advised the court and public of a recent gift of 200 books from the Rotary Club to benefit the Larga Vista Community Center Library. She thanked the Rotary Club for their generous donation.

Cmr. Cortez-Brunner welcomed back Cmr. Garza and stated that she was glad to see him recovering well.

Item No. 7 Public Comment

Ms. Maria Elena Morales, representing Khaledi Properties, was present to address Item No. 10. She stated that they were requesting that the court vote against Item No. 10 since this item was already awarded to Khaledi Properties on January 9, 2006. She stated that the earnest money contract has been finalized with the County Attorney's Office and is listed on today's agenda for approval under Item No. 63.

She stated that everyone's concerns have been addressed and the contract is ready for the court's approval.

Mr. Khaledi signed up for Public Comments. Ms. Morales stated that he was not present at the meeting but was available via teleconference if the court had any concerns that they wanted to address with him.

Mr. Edward Beckelhymer was present to address Item No. 63. He stated that he was employed by Khaledi Properties and stated that they were ready to proceed with the sale.

Mr. José Botello was present to address Item No. 17. He stated that the county is taking an important step in filing suit against ES&S. He stated that he had previously advised the court of his opposition to electronic voting. He stated that he did not blame the committee who selected the vendor since the state had certified which companies to use. He stated that his biggest concern with this equipment was the incapability of backing up the information stored in the machine. He stated that there were several problems with this year's elections, beside the problems with the electronic voting machines.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to move up Item No. 58. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 58 Presentation by the Risk Management Department on the upcoming Annual Employee Health Fair scheduled for June 14th and June 15TH.

Ms. Cynthia Mares, Risk Manager, stated that she wanted to formally invite the court and county employees to the Annual Health Fair scheduled for next Wednesday and Thursday. She stated that there would be a tremendous amount of providers at the fair. She thanked Judge Bruni for his donation for the health fair. She thanked the court for their support of the department and its projects.

Item No. 8 Status report on repairs to Casa Blanca Lake dam, correspondence with TCEQ, with discussion and possible action to direct staff to take measures as necessary to comply with TCEQ requirements regarding the same, and any other matters incident thereto.

Mr. Tomas Rodriguez, County Engineer, stated that they have already selected and engineer and have finished the fee negotiations. He stated that he will place an item in regards to this issue on the next court meeting agenda.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to move up Addendum Item No. 1. Cmr. Cortez-Brunner seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Addendum

Item No. 1 Proclamation designating June as "Prostate Cancer Awareness Month" in Webb County.

Mr. Rene Mendez, 18 year county employee and prostate cancer survivor, was present to address the court. He commended the court and Risk Management Department for their support of health awareness. He encouraged all men to take advantage of these awareness fairs and take the steps necessary if their PSA levels become elevated. He stated that there are many men who will not undergo the proper screening for prostate cancer because of the invasive procedure but stated that it was necessary to be able to catch it early and treat it correctly. Cmr. Gutierrez thanked everyone present for promoting awareness and early detection. She commended Mr. Mendez for his testimony today. Judge Bruni stated that it takes a strong man to publicly discuss such a private matter as prostate cancer.

Item No. 9 Status report on Requests for Qualifications for Delinquent Tax Collection Attorneys

Mr. Eloy Ramirez, Purchasing Agent, stated that they will open the proposals on June 14th at 2:00 PM at the County Clerk's Office. He stated that they have given out approximately 30 invitations to submit proposals. He stated that he will submit copies of all the proposals received to each member of the court.

Item No. 10 Status report on sale of the detention center, with discussion and possible action to direct the Webb County Purchasing agent to advertise in appropriate media for requests for proposals for the sale for the same, and any other matters incident thereto [Executive session may be requested pursuant to Tex. Gov. Code. Title 5, Subchapter D, § 551.071 (Attorney Consultation)]

Judge Bruni motioned to defer this item until Item No. 63 was addressed. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 11 Discussion and possible action to instruct the Webb County Purchasing Agent to solicit requests for qualifications for Directors of the Webb County Human Resources Department, and the Management Information Systems Department, to advertise in appropriate media (local or otherwise) for the same, and any other matters incident thereto.

Mr. Eloy Ramirez, Purchasing Agent, stated that a request to extend the due date for the RFQ for Human Resource Officer two meetings ago and they would be opened on June 20th. He stated that a RFQ for M.I.S. Director has not been requested.

Cmr. Garza motioned to request RFQ for M.I.S. Director. Cmr. Cortez-Brunner seconded the motion.

Mr. Eloy Ramirez, Purchasing Agent, stated that he would bring the RFQ qualifications to the court at the next meeting for their approval.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 12 Discussion and possible action to direct appropriate Webb County Staff to undertake negotiations with the City of Laredo to enter into a contractual arrangement as necessary in order to assist the City of Laredo in the obtainment of water park for the City of Laredo, and other matters related thereto.

Mr. Juan Ramirez, Councilman District 8, was present to address the court. He stated that he has been a proponent of bringing a water park to Laredo since he was first elected. He stated that this will not only improve the quality of life for the residents of Laredo and Webb County but will increase revenues in the form of tourist spending and employment opportunities. He stated that they would need approximately 19.5 acres of land for this project. Judge Bruni stated that the back up information for this item was mistakenly left out. He stated that the court needed to get a hold of Mr. Ramos so that the property in question can be deeded over to Webb County so that Webb County can then lease the property to the City of Laredo for the use of the water park only.

Judge Bruni motioned to have Mr. Carlos Villarreal, Executive Administrator, contact Mr. Ramos in regards to this item. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 13 Status report on the use of two, refrigerated, body transport trucks purchased for the morgue, whereabouts of the tailgates belonging to the same, with discussion and possible action to determine optimum use of the trucks and direct staff to conform accordingly, and any other matters incident thereto.

Mr. Eloy Ramirez, Purchasing Agent, stated that the refrigeration units have been installed but the tailgates on both trucks needed to be removed. He stated that he was approached by the vendor performing the installation that he would reduce the installation charge in exchange to keeping the removed tailgates. He stated that it was up to the court whether they wanted to do this or just dispose of the tailgates. Cmr. Gutierrez stated that she would like to see if any other county departments could use these tailgates.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to turn the tailgates over to the Road & Bridge Department to see if they could be used by any other county vehicles. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 14 Discussion and possible action to direct the Webb County Purchasing Agent to solicit requests for proposals for a funeral services provider for Webb County indigent burials, and any other matters incident thereto.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 15 Discussion and Possible Action Authorizing the Purchasing Agent,
Maintenance Director, Risk Management Director, Chief of Staff,
Executive Administrator and the County Engineer to coordinate with all
departments that have files, furniture and computer equipment inside
the Court House Annex Building to remove said equipment and dispose
of it in the proper process stipulated by state law.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 16 Discussion and possible action to authorize the purchasing agent to solicit requests for proposals to construct under the "Design Built" concept a community center to service the sixteen (16) colonias located on highway 59. Construction funds are available under TCDP contract #725891.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 17 Discussion and possible action to engage the firm of Allison, Bass & Associates to represent Webb County in claims against Election Systems and Software, Inc. [The Commissioners Court may meet in closed session to consult with the County's Attorney on this matter as permitted by Texas Open Meetings Act, Section 551.071 – anticipated litigation].

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to take this item along with the other Executive Session items. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

MEDIA BREAK (2:29 PM to 2:53 PM)

Item No. 18 Discussion and Possible Action on the Approval of a Resolution Declaring Intention to Reimburse Certain Expenditures

Mr. Carlos Villarreal, Executive Administrator, stated that Mr. Paul Martin, bond counsel, and Mr. Don Gonzalez, Estrada & Hinojosa, were present to address Item No. 18 and No. 19.

Item No. 19 Discussion and Possible Action on the Approval of an order authorizing the Issuance of "Webb County, Texas Certificates of Obligation, Series 2006", authorizing a purchase contract and authorizing other matters related thereto.

Mr. Paul Martin, bond counsel, stated that the first item is for the approval of a resolution that would allow the county to reimburse expenditures on certain projects from the Bond Series 2006. He stated that the second item is to approve the order authorizing the issuance of the Certificates of Obligation.

Mr. Don Gonzalez, Estrada & Hinojosa, stated that they plan on posting Certificates of Obligation up to \$13 million, though the estimated expenditures are between \$12.3 and \$12.5 million. He stated that this would allow some leeway as to the monies available for any upcoming projects. He stated that he did not anticipate any tax increase with this issuance. Judge Bruni stated that when he was elected, he promised the residents of Webb County that he would not raise the tax rate and vowed to keep that promise. Mr. Gonzalez recommended that the certificates be priced by July 10 with an anticipated closing date of August 10. He recommended these dates in order to get the bonds on the market prior to when the school districts go out for bonds.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve Item No. 18 and No. 19 as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Mr. Martin stated that the documentation has a date of September 10th. He proposed leaving for New York on July 5th and meet with the interested parties in New York on July 6-7. He stated that they would then leave by train to Washington, D.C. to meet with interested parties there on July 10-11 and return to Webb County on July 12. He stated that the court's regularly scheduled meeting of July 10 would need to be reset for a later date or combine both meetings for July 24th. He requested that the sale date for these certificates be moved to July 24th since they needed to be approved at a regular meeting of the court.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to set the sale date for the Certificates of Obligation from July 10 to July 24. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 20 Discussion and Possible Action to set dates for meetings with insurance companies and rating agencies in New York, and arrange dates for meetings with our congressional delegation and other federal agencies in Washington, D.C., with possible action to cancel or combine regularly scheduled meetings of the Commissioners Court in June or July.

Mr. Carlos Villarreal, Executive Administrator, stated that the proposed schedule has the court leaving for New York on July 5th and meeting with the interested parties in New York on July 6-7. He stated that they would then leave by train to Washington,

D.C. to meet with interested parties there on July 10-11 and return to Webb County on July 12.

Cmr. Garza motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Cmr. Garza motioned to move into Executive Session. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (3:13 PM to 4:27 PM)

Judge Bruni reconvened the meeting and stated that no action was taken while in Executive Session.

- Item No. 10 Status report on sale of the detention center, with discussion and possible action to direct the Webb County Purchasing agent to advertise in appropriate media for requests for proposals for the sale for the same, and any other matters incident thereto [Executive session may be requested pursuant to Tex. Gov. Code. Title 5, Subchapter D, § 551.071 (Attorney Consultation)]
- Discussion and possible action to enter into a real estate sales contract for the sale of the Webb County Detention Center (approx. 294.24 acres) with Khaledi Properties, Ltd., in the amount of THREE MILLION ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$3,100,000.00) with closing in sixty days and any matters incident thereto and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents. [Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5, Subchapter D, Section 551.071 (2) (Consultation with Attorney) and/or 551.072 (Deliberation regarding Real Property)].

Mr. Homero Ramirez, County Attorney, stated that the court authorized the sale to Khaledi properties several months ago. After discussions, an agreement was reached between both parties. The sale is for \$3.1 million with a closing date within 60 days of execution of agreement. The court has the ability to extend this time period since the temporary morgue site is located within this property. He stated that this property would be transferred as a Deed without Warranty with full disclosure made about the environmental situation there. The notices include a property description without any easements. There is no warranty being made by Webb County as seller. He stated that he is also including a notice letter received February 8th from the Law Office of Eddie Lasallo representing Killam Companies in which they disagree with the manner in which the bid process was conducted. He stated that he did not agree with the contents of the letter. Ultimately, the county's sole concern is typical of a real estate transaction including cost of the title commitment policy, survey and any incidental charges made by the abstract companies. He stated that this item was

ready for the court's approval if they wished to sell the property in question. Judge Bruni stated his concern about having received a letter from Mr. Eddie Lasallo from Killam that would more than likely result in a lawsuit against Webb County. He stated that there wasn't much that could be done with this property except divide it into 50 acre ranchettes which are legal by state statute or re-sell it back to the Killams. He stated that there was nothing else that could be done because of the ten foot Right of Way and the fact that the property was in the ETJ of the City of Laredo. He stated that he did not care what they did with this property. He stated that the Killam's were very intimate friends of the Bruni Family and he did not want to create any problems with the Khaledi's and would abstain from voting on this item. He stated that this was one lawsuit that he did not want to be a part of.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve the earnest money contract presented by the County Attorney with Khaledi Properties, Ltd. for the sale for the sale of the detention center. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Judge Bruni abstaining.

Item No. 17 Discussion and possible action to engage the firm of Allison, Bass & Associates to represent Webb County in claims against Election Systems and Software, Inc. [The Commissioners Court may meet in closed session to consult with the County's Attorney on this matter as permitted by Texas Open Meetings Act, Section 551.071 – anticipated litigation].

Mr. Homero Ramirez, County Attorney, recommended authorizing the engagement of Allison, Bass & Associates to represent Webb County in the above shown litigation and send all appropriate documentation to their attention.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 62 Discussion and possible action regarding Civil Action No. I: 04-CV170; Jesus Eligio "Chuy" Cantu vs. Webb County, Texas and Webb County Commissioners Court; In the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas, Laredo Division. Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5, Subchapter D, Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney).

Mr. Homero Ramirez, County Attorney, stated that there would be a court-ordered mediation on Friday. He recommended that the court appoint Mr. Carlos Villarreal, Executive Administrator, as the court's designated representative during this mediation.

Judge Bruni motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 21 Discussion and possible action for the approval to add the following forfeiture vehicles to the Webb County Sheriff's Department fleet:

2004 Chevrolet Malibu 2002 Ford pick-up VIN# 1G1ZU54874F108507 VIN# 5LTEW05A12KJO1333

Cmr. Cortez-Brunner requested information as to the mileage on these two vehicles. Mr. J.J. Gonzalez, Sheriff Comptroller, stated that he would send the information to her office.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 22 Discussion and possible action to create four (4) slots from the forfeiture funds for the Webb County Sheriff's Department (Fund 168 - State Forfeiture) FY 2006 \$ 66,970.00 with fringe benefits (June 12, 2006 to September 30, 2006). These slots are budget for the incoming FY 2006-2007 Sheriff's Forfeiture Budget.

Judge Bruni stated that he did not want the Sheriff to come to the court at a later date when there is no additional funding available and ask the court to pick up those slots and fund them from the General Fund. Mr. J.J. Gonzalez, Sheriff Comptroller, stated that the slots were covered by State Forfeiture Funds and are budgeted in those accounts for the next two years.

Cmr. Garza motioned to approve the four slots with the restriction that they cannot be picked up and funded by the General Fund. Cmr. Cortez-Brunner seconded the motion.

Mr. Homero Ramirez, County Attorney, recommended that the court approve the slots and that they be effective upon receipt of the funds through the end of the fiscal year. Cmr. Gutierrez advised Mr. Leo Flores, County Auditor, to flag these slots so that they cannot be picked up by the General Fund in the future.

Cmr. Garza amended his motion to include Mr. Ramirez's and Cmr. Gutierrez's recommendation. Cmr. Cortez-Brunner amended her second.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 23 Discussion and possible action to approve the following line item transfer in the amount of \$2,500.00 from 6005 Potage to 6205 Materials and Supplies.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 24 Discussion and possible action to approve the following line item transfer:

From: 001-2501-6007 Dues & Membership \$ 55.00

001-2501-6205 Materials & Supplies \$250.00

To: 001-2501-6403 Repairs & Maint of Vehicles

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 25 Discussion and possible action to approve the following 5 slot changes for personnel and a title change of the Webb County Treasurer's Department effective June 12, 2006. The salary increases are equal to the salary decreases and the amount of personnel costs budgeted for Fiscal Year 2005-2006 remain unchanged.

Ms. Delia Perales, County Treasurer, stated that the increases/decreases being requested are within her budget and would not affect any current employee's salary. She stated that the Office Manager slot will help the Executive Administrator oversee the bank reconciliations, hot checks, accounts payable and payroll. Cmr. Gutierrez stated that it was up to the elected official or department head to decide what is needed in their department but that she was concerned about the salary increases/decreases. Cmr. Sciaraffa stated that similar items have been approved for other departments and doesn't see the reason why this can't be approved. Ms. Perales stated that she is also requesting that the Executive Secretary slot be changes from exempt to hourly.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Cortez-Brunner seconded the motion.

Mr. Raul Casso, Chief of Staff, stated that he was concerned about the employee in Slot 2231 will be getting a \$10,000 raise. Cmr. Garza agreed with Cmr. Gutierrez and Cmr. Sciaraffa about this type of item being approved but would like for the court to become more standardized in these types of decisions and avoid many of these issues. He stated that he would prefer that these changes be taken into consideration during the budget cycle.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 26 Discussion and possible action to approve and file the FY 2006 Webb County Investment Policy and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 27 Discussion and possible action to enter into Non-Financial Cooperative Agreements for the Head Start Program with Veronica E. Valdez, Ph.D., of American Educational Research Association/Institute for Educational Sciences (AERA/IES), and of the University of Texas at San Antonio for a period of two (2) years (June 1, 2006 to May 31, 2008) and authorizing the County Judge to execute all relevant documents. [Requested by Head Start]

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 28 Discussion and possible action to enter into an annual non-financial cooperative agreement with the South Texas Food Bank for the Webb County Community Action Agency to act as a "pantry" for the distribution of USDA commodities supplied to the Community Action Agency by the South Texas Food Band and authorizing the Webb County Judge to execute all relevant documents. [Requested by Community Action Agency]

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 29 Discussion and possible action to enter into an Equipment Lease Agreement with Office Communications Systems, Inc. for one (1) Toshiba ES-452 Copier to be located at Self Help Center for a thirty-six month period (May 22, 2006 through May 21, 2009) in the amount of ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY-EIGHT DOLLARS AND TWO CENTS (\$178.02) per month and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents. [Requested by Self Help Center Acct. No. 506-6500-6402 (Maintenance & Repair of Equipment)].

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present for voting.

Item No. 30 Discussion and possible action to enter into an "Agreement for Laboratory Services Special Health Fair" with Laredo Texas Hospital Company L.P. d/b/a Laredo Medical Center at a cost of FIFTEEN DOLLARS (\$15.00) per Webb County employee participant, and authorizing the Webb County Judge to execute all relevant documents. [Requested by Webb County Risk Manger, Account Number #816-0105-6701-01 Health Fair Month]

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 3-0 with Cmr. Sciaraffa and Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present for voting.

Item No. 31 Discussion and possible action to enter into a "Statement of Work for Services" Agreement with International Business Machines Corporation ("IBM) for the configuration and reinstallation of a high impact laser printer located at the Webb county Tax Office at a cost of NINE HUNDRED AND SIXTY SEVEN DOLLARS (\$967.00), and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents. [Account 001-0700-6022].

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 32 Discussion and possible action to enter into a one (1) year Equipment Maintenance Agreement (June 12, 2006 to June 11, 2007) with Office Communications Systems, Inc. for two (2) Toshiba Digital Facsimile located at the Webb County Attorney's Office in the amount of TWO HUNDRED NINETY FIVE DOLLARS (\$295.00) a year and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents. [Requested by Webb County Attorney; Account No. 001-1101-6402 (Repairs & Maintenance of Equipment)].

 $\mbox{Cmr.}$ Garza motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 33 Discussion and possible action to accept two (2) rights of way, out of Pueblo Nuevo Subdivision, one (1) right-of-way out of Ranchitos IV Los Minerales Annex Subdivision and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 34 Discussion and possible action to authorize the County Judge to sign a Lien holder's Subordination to Right - of - Ways and Utility Easements for tax judgment liens pertaining to properties located in the Pueblo Nuevo Subdivision, Ranchos Penitas West Subdivision, San Carlos

Subdivision, Phase I, San Carlos Subdivision, Phase II, Ranchitos Los Centenarios Subdivision, Los Altos Subdivision and Tanquecitos South Acres and any matters incident thereto.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 35 Discussion and possible action to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Texas Department of Public Safety for the Texas Interoperability Channel Plan to be used by all Webb County Law Enforcement Officers and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 36 Discussion and possible action to accept second quarter funds for the Comprehensive Energy Assistance Program (CEAP) from the Texas Department of Housing & Community Affairs (TDHCA) for FY- 2006, in the amount of \$429,064.00 and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 37 Discussion and possible action to fill slot # 2001, part-time no benefits for the Meals On Wheels program effective June 13, 2006, at a salary of \$8.25 per hour. Funds are to come from account # 952-4216-5001. No impact to the General Fund.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Cortez-Brunner seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 38 Discussion and possible action to accept \$143, 779.00 in Low Income Energy Assistance funds from the Texas Department of Housing & Community Affairs to be used in the Weatherization Assistance Program from April 1, 2006 through March 31, 2007, to assist in achieving a prescribed level of energy efficiency in 43 dwelling units of qualified low income persons and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 39 Discussion and possible action to implement changes to the organizational structure of the Webb County Community Action Agency as submitted the Executive director effective June 13, 2006, and to reclassify slots as indicated in supporting documentation (please refer to back-up materials). All positions are grant funded; there is no impact on the general revenue fund.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 40 Discussion and possible action to authorize the establishment of a three-step career ladder for all positions within the Webb County Community Action agency. All positions are grant funded; the general fund suffers no impact.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 41 Discussion and possible action to approve the submission of a Victim Coordinator/Liaison Grant to the Texas Office of the Attorney General in the amount of \$39,000.00, with a \$3,300.00 in-kind match.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Mr. Juan Vargas, Economic Development Director, stated that this is the second year refunding for this position. He stated that the in-kind match is the use of the office and not a cash match. He stated that this is a five year grant that the county can apply for and that after the five years, it is the county's choice whether or not to continue funding the position.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 42 Discussion and Possible Action Approving the Plaques for the "Fred and Anita Bruni Community Center" and "Villa Antigua" Buildings

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve the plaque for the Fred and Anita Bruni Community Center but requested that the Villa Antigua Plaque be deferred since it

must comply with historical guidelines. Cmr. Cortez-Brunner seconded the motion with the correction of "Precint" to "Precinct" on the Bruni plaque.

Judge Bruni requested that the plaque read "Fred M. and Anita Bruni" since his father was very proud of his middle name and always used his middle initial. He thanked former Cmr. David R. Cortez and Cmr. Cortez-Brunner for starting and continuing this Community Center project.

Cmr. Gutierrez amended her motion to include Judge Bruni's request. Cmr. Cortez-Brunner amended her second.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 43 Discussion and Possible Action Authorizing Final Payment and Retainage on Bid Item No. 2 in the amount of \$22,647.25 to J & S Water Wells for the drilling of the water well in the County School Lands on Hwy 44. This project is part of Webb County's Secondary Water Source program.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 44 Discussion and Possible Action Authorizing Final Payment and Retainage of \$13,714.89 to Gonzalez Engineering for the design of the Texas Water Development Board - EDAP water line replacement project in El Cenizo.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 45 Discussion and possible action to approve the following line item transfers and to give the County Auditor approval to allocate \$24,000.00 from other accounts to financially balance the needs of the Building Maintenance Department:

FROM:	•	
001-0106-5001	Payroll account	\$ 8,000.00
001-6002-5001	Payroll account	\$ 500.00
001-0106-6402	Repairs & Maintenance of Equipment	\$10,000.00
001-6002-6014	Equipment Rental	\$ 500.00
001-0106-6703	Landfill Fees	\$ 500.00
001-6002-6703	Landfill Fees	\$ 1,500.00
Funds From Other A	\$24,000.00	
	Total	\$45,000.00
TO:		
001-0106-6401	Repairs & Maintenance of Buildings	\$35,000.00
001-0106-6403	Repairs & Maintenance of Vehicles	\$ 2,000.00

001-6002-6403	Repairs & Maintenance of Vehicles	\$ 1,000.00
001-0106-6204	Fuel & Lubricants	\$ 6,000.00
001-6002-6204	Fuel & Lubricants	\$ 1,000.00
	Total	\$45,000.00

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Mr. Leo Flores, County Auditor, stated that there are sufficient payroll savings to transfer to other line items. He advised all department heads and elected officials that operational line item transfers can be authorized by the County Judge only but that payroll line item transfers must be brought to and approved by the court.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 46

Discussion and possible action to allow the Webb County Head Start program to partner with the Region 19 Head Start program (El Paso, TX) and other South Texas Head Start programs to apply for the Department of Health & Human Services Administration for Children and Families Health Marriages Demonstration Grant.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 47

Discussion and possible action to approve the following line item transfer:

From:	001-4101-6022	Professional Services	\$ 1,400.00
To:	001-4101-6204	Fuel & Lubricants	1,000.00
	001-4101-6403	Repairs & Maint. Vehicle	\$ 400.00

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 48

Discussion and possible action to solicit Request for Proposals for Inmate and Coin Telephone services for the Sheriff's Department.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 49

Discussion and possible action to award/reject the Bid No. 2006-25 "Carpet Installation Justice Center, Third Floor and part of the Fourth Floor" to Admirel Builders in the amount of \$47,663.40.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to award Bid 2006-25 to Admirel Builders. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 50 Discussion and possible action to authorize the Purchasing Agent to purchase seven (7) security cameras for El Aguila Rural Transportation from NOVASTAR Communications in the amount of \$7,925.00. [ACCT. 980-4204-6224-2]

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Mr. Eloy Ramirez, Purchasing Agent, stated that he received three written quotations but can request additional quotes if the court so wishes.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 51 Discussion and possible action to allocate \$50,000 from Bond Series 2006 Capital Outlay for the purchase of furniture and equipment for the Fred & Anita Bruni Community effective on receipt of the bond funds.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 52 Discussion and possible action to purchase three (3) licenses for the existing mapping software in the amount of \$6,120.00 from ESRI, Inc. for the Planning Department. Acct. No. 010-2202-8405, \$36,655.20.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 53 Discussion and possible action to authorize the Purchasing Agent the following equipment from Western Data Systems for the Planning Department:

Qty	Description	Amount
1	Geo XH Standalone System	\$4,765.00
1	Terra Sync Prof. Edition Software	\$1,075.00
1	Path Finder Office Software	\$ 711.00
	Shipping	\$ 20.00
	Grand Total	\$6,571.00

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 54 Discussion and possible action to authorize the Purchasing Agent to solicit bids for central air coil cleaning for the CAA-Comprehensive Energy Assistance Program.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 55 Discussion and possible action to purchase 48' N-12 Prolink St Corr Pipe from National Waterworks in the amount of \$10,020.00 for the Road and Bridge department. Acct. No. 671-8001-8801-14, Balance; \$72,062.10

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 56 Discussion and possible action to purchase furniture, telephone systems, kitchen appliances, security alarm systems and other items for the Fred and Anita Bruni Community Center (Penitas West) from ACC # 660-0700-8801 \$40,000.00.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Mr. Eloy Ramirez, Purchasing Agent, stated that Item No. 51 was a request for the allocation of \$40,000 from Bond Series 2006. He stated that Ms. Patricia Barrera, Tax Assessor Collector, has allowed the use of \$40,000 from her Tax Office Archive Fund for the purchase of this furniture on the condition that it is reimbursed with the Bond Series 2006 issuance. Mr. Leo Flores, County Auditor, stated that the \$40,000 is not coming from the Archive Fund but rather from the \$40,000 allocated to Ms. Barrera from the 2003 Bond Series interest earned for the purchase of an archiving program.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 57 Discussion and possible action to solicit bids for Phase II ADA repairs for the Webb County Justice Center and Administration Building for the Engineering Department.

Cmr. Garza motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Cortez-Brunner seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 59 Discussion and possible action authorizing the Road and Bridge Department to hire a Road Inspector/Survey Technician at \$13.00 per hour, to assist the Road Construction and Paving Crews to manage the design and construction phases of the Texas Department of Transportation Border Colonias Access Program.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 60 Discussion and possible action authorizing Dept. 7002, Road and Bridge Department to set work summer hours for construction crews from 7:00 am to 3:30 pm with 1/2 hour lunch; starting June 14 through September 8, 2006.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Cortez-Brunner seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 61 Discussion and possible action to approve a line item transfer as follows:

From: 001-5050-6402 Repairs & Maintenance Equipment \$ 500.00 To: 001-5050-5601 Administrative Travel \$ 500.00

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 64 Adjournment

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to adjourn the meeting. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.